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Beautifying America begins at home

Beautifying America *BEGINS AT HOME*

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS



This dwarf Alberta spruce has landscape potential for today's rambler-style houses. Its eventual five-foot height adds attractiveness and stateliness to single story homes as its 40-foot cousins did to older two and three story houses. N-48079

Landscaping today's one-story, rambler-style house challenges the American homeowner. The challenge is to find plants that will not outgrow the house. This calls for slow-growing plants that are naturally dwarfs or those that have been bred for small size.

Most nurserymen can supply dwarf species of some ornamentals, and new ones are being added. For example, 19 dwarf azalea varieties have been developed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and released to nurserymen, who are now building up stocks for sale. These and other low-growing azaleas offer excellent plantings for rambler and ranch-style houses in areas where azaleas are adapted.

Nurserymen can suggest other dwarf or low-growing ornamentals adapted to local weather and soil conditions. The dogwood, where it's adapted, is the type of small tree that provides showy blossoms in the spring and beautiful

foliage in the fall without overpowering low houses. For those who have facilities and the knowledge to take care of them, young plants are often the best buy at nurseries.

Annuals may be used to give beauty while owners of new homes wait for foundation plantings to mature.

Plant explorers of the Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, have searched the world and brought back hundreds of ornamental trees, shrubs, and flowers. Many of these are dwarf or low-growing or make only small annual growth—characteristics that are ideal for beautifying modern one-story homes.

Proper planning, wise purchasing, and loving care will add to the life and beauty of ornamental plantings.

And to the life and beauty of the community.

Azaleas prefer partial shade, such as that provided by tall trees. They also grow well in full sunlight. Around this typical modern house, Kurume (semi-dwarf) azaleas are used as foundation planting next to the house. Azaleas may also be used as accent plantings in the lawn. N-31746



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A fat, 12-inch rosette of this succulent from Mexico looks like a giant head of lettuce. Other succulents and cacti introduced by plant explorers are well suited for low-growing, low-maintenance landscaping in the southwestern United States. BN-11921



Sasanqua camellias, with showy white and pink blossoms, have been tested for winter hardiness by USDA horticulturists. They withstand wintry weather in the Pacific Coastal States and as far north as Washington, D. C. and are a beautiful and low-growing shrub for many landscaping situations. BN-21646



This 13-year-old Dwarf Burford holly is only slightly taller than 4-year-old Gil Marx of Hyattsville, Maryland. Several varieties of low growing holly have been developed by USDA scientists. BN-24758



Dwarf azaleas, shown here in a flowerpot, offer excellent outdoor plantings for low, one-story houses. Nineteen varieties of dwarf azaleas, which reach a height of only about 12 inches, are now in the hands of nurserymen for increase. BN-24757

(Right) Annuals—such as petunias and snapdragons—provide quick color in the landscape. Many varieties of accent flowers have been introduced in recent years. BN-17999

(Below) Dogwood trees, shown here in a park setting, are a popular low-growing tree for planting around today's rambler-style houses. Showy blossoms and slow-growing habits combine for color and easy maintenance. A number of other trees such as Crabapples, Japanese Cherries, Goldenrain trees and Red Bud are similarly adapted to home landscaping. FS-276871



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